



NEWS RELEASE

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District: District 12 – Orange County
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caltrans and OCTA Announce Opening of Bid Submittals for the Recovery Act's \$67.8 Million SR 91 Widening Project

Irvine – Focused on injecting American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding into the California economy as quickly and effectively as possible, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) today announced that bids were opened for the \$67.8 million SR 91 eastbound lane addition project financed by the ARRA.

A contract requirement for this project called for a mandatory pre-bid meeting, which was held on June 30th, in which prime contractors were given the opportunity to network with small businesses and Underutilized Disadvantage Business Enterprises (UDBE). The contract requires a six percent UDBE participation.

Caltrans received 9 bids and the apparent low bid winner is Brutoco Engineering and Construction, Inc. who submitted a bid of \$35.5 million and 300 working days to complete the widening. A contract award is pending a bid analysis by Caltrans. Caltrans District 12 Director, Cindy Quon, said "The investment in transportation infrastructure is one of the best ways to stimulate the economy, and at the same time improve our transportation infrastructure to lay the foundation for future growth. We had invited all Orange County's businesses – big and small - to take part in this exciting opportunity."

SR 91 is recognized in the regional and State transportation plans as a major transportation facility that serves Riverside, Orange and Los Angeles Counties, and is the lifeline for Orange and Riverside Counties as it is the only freeway corridor connecting these two counties. The proposed project consists of widening the eastbound SR 91 freeway to add one general-purpose lane and establish full standard lane and shoulder widths across the eastbound freeway from SR 241 to SR 71. A series of retaining walls will be constructed on the south side of the freeway to accommodate the widening. The result is to reduce traffic congestion, improve operational deficiencies, and reduce travel time per trip by 15 minutes. The project is consistent with the SR 91 Implementation Plan (as required by AB 1010).

Caltrans District 12 - Orange County has been allocated \$28.2 million in funding for 5 major roadway projects, \$32.4 million for 41 local cities projects, and \$4 million for 7 Transportation Enhancement projects.

The OCTA will receive a further \$61.8 million for highways and city projects, including the West County Connector project (SR-22/I-405/I-605).

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